



THE SQUADRON FLYER



Mid Summer 2003

The Official Newsletter of the Condor Composite Squadron

Cadet Takes Off for the USAF Academy

By 1Lt Scott Gardner, CAP

The Squadron was pleased to announce the appointment of squadron cadet Nathan King to the United States Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

King was notified Tuesday, June 17, 2003 that he had been accepted into the academy class beginning June 2003. Cadet basic training began on June 25, 2003, which he successfully completed and is now a cadet fourth class.

Attica Central School honored King at a special awards night and allowed him to graduate receiving his diploma early. Because of the short notice of the appointment, he was not able to participate in graduation exercises with his class. King was presented with his official certificate of appointment to the USAF Academy by Colonel Thomas J. Burgie USAF, Commander of the AFROTC Detachment 538 in Rochester. For pictures, see the squadron website news page.

Nathan King originally planned to attend Embry Riddle Aeronautical University in the fall. However, when he received the telephone call from the USAF Academy, he quickly decided to change his plans.

"It was a shock and tremendous surprise to hear of this news. We wish him all the best and know that he will be an outstanding academy cadet," said squadron commander Captain Charles Miller. "The squadron is already planning to travel to Colorado in four years to watch him graduate."

Nathan King is the third cadet from the squadron to go to the USAF Academy, and was recently awarded CAP New York Wing Cadet of the Year.

Other Condor cadets graduating will be attending a variety of schooling or training in the fall. "We have Robert Morris who has been accepted to the ROTC program at SUNY Brockport, Robert Husted who will enter the US Air Force at the end of August, and Jonathan Marsh who will be attending Pensacola Christian College in Florida," stated Miller.

"We are very proud of all their accomplishments within the CAP cadet program and in their personal lives. We wish them all much success."



Cadets Take Home Encampment Honors

By 1Lt Scott Gardner, CAP

Two cadets took home top honors this year for their work at this year's New York Wing Leadership Encampment held at Fort Drum, from July 27 through August 3, 2003.

Cadet Valerie Marsh was awarded Honor Cadet from the NCO Academy. She was the only female cadet out of both Alpha and Bravo flights that made up the academy. She was given her award during final graduation ceremonies on Sunday, August 3rd. Valerie distinguished herself through leadership and self discipline throughout the week.

Cadet Joel Bouchard presented his flight's guidon at graduation exercises when they received the encampment's Honor Flight on Sunday. He also received a commander's commendation certificate as a result of his excellent bunk making and attention to his quarters.

In addition, cadets Adam Pope, Chrissy Husted, and Emily Wadsworth attended the encampment. Cadet Robert Husted attended serving on the cadet Standards and Evaluation Team. Senior members Charlie Miller also attended serving as Communications Mentor and Scott Gardner as Asst. Public Affairs Mentor. Diane Wojtowicz and Bill Hughes also attended serving as Flight Operations staff.

At the regular squadron meeting on August 5th, the cadets and seniors who attended shared stories and memories of their experiences at the encampment. Everyone agreed that it was a lot of work, but was definitely worth the experience. Many plan on attending the encampment next year.

CIVIL AIR PATROL IS ON THE WEB!

Check out the following links for more information!

Civil Air Patrol National Headquarters: www.capnhq.gov

New York Wing Web: www.nywg.cap.gov

Condor Composite Squadron: www.condor.nywg.cap.gov

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News in Brief

- Condor Cadets and Seniors participated in the Perry Warsaw Airport Open House on July 26, 2003. They hosted visitors at the mission base and presented the missions of CAP.
- On August 7, 2003, C/Captain Jonathan Fitch and 1Lt Scott Gardner were guests of the Perry Rotary at their weekly luncheon. They delivered a half hour presentation on CAP from both a national and local perspective.
- August 11, 2003 marked Condor's third appearance in the Wyoming County Fair Grand Parade in Pike, NY.

Congratulations to Cadet Bradley McGinnis for Earning the Amelia Earhart Award #12393

He is now promoted to Cadet Captain

“Conquering the Beast” Basic Cadet Training at USAFA

By Cadet Fourth Class Nathan A. King, USAFA

June 25 I walked out of my front door for the last time. I got onto an airplane and flew across the country to a place that I had never been.

When I was dropped off at the academy my life changed forever. In processing was stressful but relatively easy. After going throughout countless issue lines, where I was issued every thing from BDUs to under wear to a toothbrush, I was weighed, got a new hair do (or lack there of).

I was then taken to my room with my five or so laundry bags of new gear, and told to “square all that stuff away. Oh, and by the way don’t sit down” this was the first time I realized kind of where I was. For the rest of basic we could only sit down during personal time (which was not very often)

After getting everything put away, like it was shown in “wingtips” (Wingtips is our BCT handbook) I met my Cadre (cadre are the upperclassmen who train you). The rest of first BCT was filled with more issues, uniform fittings and briefings.

We had briefings on everything under the sun. It was at times very difficult to stay awake. (Mostly because we went to bed at 2200 and got up at 0430. Getting up was a pain too. We were woken up to people beating on our doors and yelling at us. We had to be up and fully dress in the hall in 3minutes...oh yeah and our beds had to be made to inspection standards as well. This continued for the next two weeks. We did many pushups due to various infractions, such as cables or not standing at the proper position of attention.

Once that was over we were turned over to a fresh group of cadre. 2nd BCT had begun. We then marched a few

miles out to Jack’s valley, for field training. For the next two weeks we lived in 15 man GPTs or general purpose tents. I was ok but the cots are horrible to sleep on. Many people got sick during this time. There was also a pinkeye epidemic. And just our luck this was supposedly the hottest summer in 25 years. But we trained anyway.

Out in Jack’s we did the Bayonet Assault Course, The Confidence course (similar to the one at Ft Drum), the obstacle course (very very difficult) and the Leadership reaction course).

Other activities were combat arms training, and “operation warrior.”

“Operation warrior” was awesome; we were given M-16s with blanks and taught how to use camo. We were then taught all sorts of team movements for combat. After this they gave us a mission to do. We had to use our new skills and meet our objective while being hunted by the cadre. We go to shoot at each other with the blanks! It was a lot of fun (we did, by the way capture our objective) after the two weeks in the field we ran out of jack’s valley as warriors.

Once we were back in the cadet area we had more briefings and issues to go to. And then we were turned over to our academic year squadrons. I am in Cadet Squadron 12 “The Dirty Dozen” after the acceptance parade we became real cadets and now can move freely around the academy.

In fact, I hiked to the top of a mountain with a few friends a few days ago. (It is amazing here) Now my classes have started and I am almost like a college student. I would recommend that you all look into the academy as an option for your future. It will change you forever.

Calendar for

September 2003

9/2/03	Regular Mtg. (PT/Cadets, BDU)
9/9/03	Regular Mtg. (BDU)
9/16/03	Regular Mtg. (Blues)
9/23/03	Regular Mtg. (BDU)
9/30/03	Regular Mtg. (BDU)

ON THIS DAY IN HISTORY...

Aug. 2, 1909 -- The Wright Military Flyer was formally accepted as the Army's first airplane -- Signal Corps Airplane No. 1.

Aug. 5, 1954 -- The first Boeing B-52A made a 78-minute maiden flight.

Aug. 6, 1945 -- B-29 "Enola Gay" dropped an atomic bomb on Hiroshima, Japan.

Aug. 17, 1942 -- The first American heavy bomber mission during World War II flown in Europe.

Aug. 30, 1960 -- The first Atlas intercontinental ballistic missile squadron becomes fully operational.

Aug. 31, 1932 -- Air Corps pilots flew five miles above the earth's surface to photograph an eclipse of the sun.